FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FORMER PERONIST DEPUTY ATTACKS PARTY PRESIDENT

PY012155 Paris AFP in Spanish 1318 GMT 28 Jun 80

[By Luis Maria Castellanos]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Jun (AFP)--The internal divergencies within Peronism which is the most important electoral force in Argentina, surfaced today when a former deputy reported that the party leadership is allied with communism.

Former Peronist Deputy Luis Sobrino Aranda said that the current party president, Deolindo Bittel, is drifting from the party line through his alliance with the (pro-Soviet) Argentine Communist Party. Therefore, he is not qualified to exercise the Peronist party leadership.

The former deputy revealed that Bittel had already begun to drift away from Peronism when he was governor and said that Bittel is now associated with Vicent Saadi, who is linked with communism.

Sobrino Aranda's report brought to light the serious internal divergencies within Peronism, which has been is disarray since Juan Peron's death in July 1974.

Bittel is the head of a faction which is called "neo-Camporist" by the opposing faction. The Bittel faction wants to form a civilian front opposed to military power. Neo-Camporist strategy is to create a situation of confrontation in the country between the civilians and the military. A similar situation forced the military government of Alejandro Lanusse to call for elections in 1972, as a result of which Campora took over the presidency in 1973.

Internal factions opposed to Bittel contend that there can be no stable political solution other than through a civilian-military pact to permit the institutionalization of the country and to avoid the cyclic swings between weak civilian governments and strong military regimes which emerge from coups.

Labor leader Lorenzo Miguel, who was recently released after 4 years in prison, has chosen an intermediate position of trying to maintain unity within Peronism without drifting to the left or abandoning the position of criticism against the military.

Peronist party congress President Eloy Camus and former La Rioja Province Governor Carlos Menem also follow Miguel's line. Carlos Menem is considered one of the young political figures close to former President Isabel Peron, who has been under arrest by the military since her ouster in 1976. Both Miguel and Camus have tried to surround Bittel to protect him from the influence of others who could push him toward a radical leftist position.

Sobrino Aranda reported that the danger of a drift to the left exists, and he openly stated that Bittel's line is influenced by pro-Soviet communism.

Those who believe in the existence of that danger point out that "Camporism" has not been defeated completely and that its political activities have been revitalized in recent months since the former president went to Mexico, after the military had blocked his departure for more than 4 years.

According to Peronist sources, Campora keeps close contacts with a sector of the Democratic Party in the United States through his relationship with Eddy Torres, President Carter's adviser on Latin American affairs. According to the same sources, Campora also keeps contacts with the Kennedy sector of the Democratic Party through his relationship with Uruguayan Alberto Ferreyra Aldunate (son of a former Uruguayan presidential candidate) and Laurence Birds, who are associated with human rights defense organizations in the United States.

LATEST OFFICIAL COUNT SHOWS UDP STILL LEADING

PY022222 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2111 GMT 2 Jul 80

[All figures as received]

[Text] La Paz, 2 Jul (TELAM)--The national Electoral Court today released the results from 3,798 ballot booths with 785,825 votes counted, approximately 39.3 percent of the total electorate. Approximately 100 percent of the La Paz ballots are included in that total. The results continue to show the same tendency observed since the start of the counting.

People's Democratic Union (Hernan Siles Zuazo)--UDP--250,027 votes--35.22 percent;

National and Democratic Action (Hugo Banzer Suarez)--ADN--165,020 votes--23.24 percent;

National Revolutionary Movement Alliance (Victor Paz Estenssoro)--MNR-A--121,082 votes--17.05 percent;

Socialist Party One (Marcelo Quiroga Santacruz)--PS-1--81,589 votes--11.49 percent;

Authentic Revolutionary Party (Walter Guevara Arze)--PRA--21,734 votes--3.06 percent;

New Alternative Revolutionary Democratic Front (Adolfo Siles Salinas)--FDR-NA--21,236 votes--2.99 percent;

Bolivian Socialist Falange (Carlos Valverde Barbery)--FSB--11,579 votes--1.63 percent;

United National Revolutionary Movement (Guillermo Bedregal Gutierrez)--MNR-U--9,542 votes--1.33 percent;

National Alliance of Leftist Forces (Roberto Jordan Pando)--MNR-AFIN--6,344 votes--.89 percent;

Bolivian Unity Party (Walter Gonzalez Valda)--PUB--5,849 votes--.82 percent;

National Revolutionary Party of the Left (Juan Lechin Oquendo)--PRIN-A--5,662 votes--.79 percent;

Tupac Katari Indian Movement (Luciano Tapia Quisbert)--MITKA--5,252 votes--.73 percent;

Tupac Katari Indian Movement One (Constantino Lima Chavez)--MITKA-1--4,946 votes--.69 percent.

These are the results from 3,798 ballot booths with 785,825 votes from throughout the country, with 709,769 valid votes, 38,593 blank votes and 37,463 annulled votes.

Final Count Next Week

PY030302 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 0200 GMT 3 Jul 80

[Excerpt] Rolando Roca Aguilera, president of the national Electoral Court, has stated that the final election results for the whole country will be available on Tuesday or Wednesday next week. In an interview with the press, Roca Aguilera stated that over 800,000 ballots from the nine departments of the country have been counted so far.

SILES ZUAZO SEEKS CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT

PY030349 La Paz Radio Difusora Cristal in Spanish 0330 GMT 3 Jul 80

[Excerpt] Former President Siles Zuazo has initiated his talks with various political parties to obtain the support in the Congress which will permit him to reach the presidency. The first meeting toward that end took place tonight, Wednesday, at Siles Zuazo's home with former President Walter Guevara. The result of the negotiation is not yet known. It should be remembered, however, that Guevara has said that his congressmen will give their votes to the candidate who obtains the most votes in the elections.

BANZER NOT OPPOSED TO SILES ZUAZO AS PRESIDENT

PY021625 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1525 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] La Paz, 2 Jul (TELAM)--Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez, National Democratic Action (ADN) candidate, said during an exclusive DPA interview that he will not oppose Hernan Siles Zuazo, leftist winner in the presidential elections, from becoming president as long as his appointment meets constitutional standards.

He has the same right as any Bolivian, said the former president who headed a de facto government from 1971 to 1978.

General Banzer was very cautious regarding other political leaders, but he categorically refused to comment on the remarks made by Socialist leader Marcelo Quiroga Santacruz, who is in fourth place in the elections.

The former president repeatedly avoided commenting on the postelectoral agreements which may be reached by his party, the ADN, to elect the future Bolivian president, who will again be elected by Congress. Banzer said that it is still too early to say who won and by how much.

During the interview, General Banzer admitted, however, that he agrees in principle with the idealogy of the National Revolutionary Movement (MNR) headed by former President Victor Paz Estenssoro who, according to official statistics, is in third place.

CONSERVATIVES WITHHOLD RECOGNITION OF SILES ZUAZO

PY022248 Paris AFP in Spanish 2139 GMT 2 Jul 80

[By Eduardo Perez Iribarne]

[Excerpts] La Paz, 2 Jul AFP--Civic resistance against the winner of the Bolivian elections, Hernan Siles Zuazo, began today in various parts of the country as a result of conservative opposition and the refusal announced by the Cochabamba Peasant Federation to recognize his victory.

In addition, rumors of a possible coup d'etat have increased in political circles, as there is official confirmation of the electoral figures published by the Bolivian Electoral Network--a private organization including 56 private radio stations and seven newspapers. There is fear that a government leaning toward communism may be installed in Bolivia.

The official vote count now covers 35 percent of the ballots cast on Sunday 29 June throughout the country, and Siles Zuazo's leading position is not only confirmed but his margin is becoming broader due to the peasant support his candidacy has received in various rural districts of the country.

Nevertheless, a peasant federation in Cochabamba, 400 km southeast of La Paz, announced today that it did not recognize Siles Zuazo as president because he had won through fraud.

Civic resistance in conservative circles may become stronger, unless the leaders of the People's Democratic Union reach a quick political agreement with Paz Estenssoro's followers. That is the reason for the importance given in all circles to the political negotiations on this issue.

The national Electoral Court has announced that if intends to publish the official final election results within the next 3 days.

EID FRANCO SAYS UDP CALM IN FACE OF OPPOSITION

PY021925 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Excerpt] The People's Democratic Union, UDP, states that it will not lend itself to a systematic campaign to confound the people regarding the results of the election, which every one knows has been won by the UDP.

Oscar Eid Franco said that the UDP will therefore act with maturity and serenity regarding the possibility that so-called peasant groups will not recognize the UDP victory.

[Begin Eid recording] The UDP position regarding this report is to remain serene and prudent because we can only say that these reports are aimed initially at creating an environment of confusion which may gradually become more serious. In this regard, the UDP as a front is consolidating its victory, both in the total popular votes and in the majority of the country's departments. Because we both have such a number of congressmen and a popular victory which will exceed 10 percent, we belive that we should act with the necessary serenity and with the political maturity demanded from the front, which practically has the responsibility to form the next government.

We are concerned, however, at the real intentions of this campaign. We are going to release an official communique in the next few hours regarding the things we are beginning to see which are slowly developing with the purpose of confusing the people about a UDP victory which cannot be questioned. [end recording]

Eid added that the allged political deadlock has been overcome as a result of the elections and that he expects that the popular will that resulted from the elections will be respected.

PS-1 LEADER VIEWS POSSIBILITY OF SUPPORTING UDP

PY020340 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 0200 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Excerpts] Marcelo Quiroga Santacruz, head of the Socialist Party one [PS-1], said at a press conference held this morning that his party will not support any candidacy in the Congress; it will only do so if the ballots of the PS-1 congressmen are indispensable in preventing the country from facing a power vacuum. Quiroga gave the following answer to the first question asked by the newsmen:

[Begin Quiroga recording] Before and after last year's election and before and after this election, the PS-1 has firmly refused to commit its votes to the largest relative majority because it seems to us that this is a mistake which has been committed by some popular leftist forces. For us this is not an arithmetical but rather a political problem. We are not the least interested in the number of votes that a candidate may obtain; we are interested in the ideological and programmatic content of the option he represents. [end recording]

He said that the PS-1 will not vote for any candidate unless it becomes essential.

[Begin Quiroga recording] We want to take advantage of the question asked by Radio Fides to make the position of the PS-1 perfectly clear in the case, which is only hypothetical, that the PS-1 votes would be absolutely vital in solving the problem of the presidency. Let me give a simple example: If the PS-1 has 10 votes in the Congress and exactly 10 votes are needed to elect a president--if we give them--there will be a president of Bolivia on 6 August, but if we withhold them, there will be no president for this country and a new interim regime will then begin. Only if we are in that extreme situation, which we believe will not take place, would we feel morally and politically compelled to give our votes. Because if we did not do this, we would become in a way accomplices by omission in the perpetuation of the power vacuum, which would tend to be filled by coupist and regressive currents. Only in that extreme situation would we give our votes. We would not give them, under any circumstances, to Paz Estenssoro or Banzer; we would have to give them to the third and last of the candidates, he who has received the greatest number of votes, the candidate for the People's Democratic Union [UDP] [end recording]

Marcelo Quiroga concluded by stating that his party would not make its support of the UDP subject to any conditions.

[Begin Quiroga recording] That voting would in no case be the result of a negotiation as was the case of [words indistinct] and which will be the case of the political fronts of the right. There would be no pact, no kind of compensation. The ideological and programmatic aims of the party would be clearly defined and we would always have the option of being in the opposition. We would have to give our votes only in that extreme case. [end recording]

PRESIDENT GUEILER TO ATTEND BELAUNDE INAUGURATION

PY030252 La Paz Radio Fides in S anish 0200 GMT 3 Jul 80

[Text] President Lidia Gueiler Tejada will go to Peru to attend the ceremony when President-elect Fernando Belaunde Terry takes power on 28 July. This was confirmed today in Lima by Bolivian Agriculture Minister Mario Viscarra.

Minister Viscarra made a stopover in Lima during his trip to Medellin, Colombia, where he will participate in a meeting of Andean agriculture ministers which begins today. He said in Lima that the Bolivian president could not be absent from such an important ceremony in a brother nation like Peru.

FEDERAL DEPUTIES TO HEAD DELEGATION TO CUBA

PY020110 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 1 Jul 80

[Text] Sao Paulo--The office of State Deputy Fernando de Moraes (Brazilian Democratic Movement Party--PMDB) yesterday released a list of the people who will visit Cuba, where they will stay for 10 days at the invitation of the government and where they will observe the functioning of the Cuban National Assembly of the People's Government.

In addition to the names of businessmen and journalists, the list contains the following names; federal deputies: Ralph Biasi (PMDB--Sao Paulo State), Audalio Dantas (PMDB--Sao Paulo State), Alberto Goldman (PMDB--Sao Paulo State), Haroldo Sanford Barros (Social Democratic Party--PDS--Ceara State), Cristina Tavares (PMDB--Pernambuco State), Emidio Perondi (PDS--Rio Grande do Sul State), Iranildo Pereira (PMDB--Ceara State), Claudio Filomeno Gomez (PDS--Ceara State) and Roberto Freire (PMDB--Pernambuco State). State deputies: Geraldo Siqueira (Partido dos Trabalhadores--PT--Sao Paulo State), Sergio dos Santos (PMDB--Sao Paulo State), Fernando de Morais (PMDB--Sao Paulo State), Gernote Kirinos (PMDB--Parana State), Raimundo de Oliveira (PMDB--Rio de Janeiro State) and Paulo Cesar Gomes (PMDB--Rio de Janeiro State). Town councilmen: Glenio Peres (Workers Democratic Party--PDT--Rio Grande do Sul State) and Antonio Carlos de Carvalho (PMDB--Rio de Janeiro State).

Deputy de Moraes, who has already visited Cuba and who recounted his visit in his book "The Island," has stated that the visit to be made by the Brazilians "will contribute toward normalizing relations between the two peoples once the two countries discover common interests, especially trade interests with the creation of a cartel for the defense of sugar prices in the international market." He also stressed that "nothing justifies the cold war strategy of continuing to block the friendly ties that have traditionally united the two countries."

INCIPIENT SEPARATIST MOVEMENT REPORTED IN NORTHEAST

PY021412 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] Senator Mendes Canale from Mato Grosso has reported that there is an incipient separatist movement in the northeast. According to the senator, who is chairman of the Committee for Regional Affairs of the Northeast, the situation is worsened by the attitude of the government. The funds announced for the area frequently fail to arrive and this leads the people to disbelieve government promises.

FROST DAMAGES PARANA STATE COFFEE PLANTATIONS

PY010118 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 28 Jun 80 p 1

[Text] Approximately 70 million coffee plants, 10 percent of the 700 million that exist in the north of Parana State, were destroyed by yesterday's early morning frost that covered most of the state, according to the first investigation carried out by the technicians of the Parana State Agriculture Secretariat, the Brazilian Coffee Institute and the cooperatives. The large polar air mass that is passing over the southern part of the country caused snow to fall on Friday afternoon in Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina states. It even snowed in Porto Alegre itself. It snowed again in Cambara, where the temperature reached 6 degrees below zero centigrade.

PINOCHET DISCUSSES NEW CONSTITUTION, FOREIGN AFFAIRS

PY021327 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Excerpts] President Pinochet yesterday, after a meeting with admirals and generals, stated that it is possible that the draft constitution drawn up by the State Council will be submitted to the presidency in the course of the coming week.

During an informal meeting with journalists accredited to government house, the president referred to several subjects of national interest.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, Pinochet was asked about the pope's mediation in the southern conflict, to which he answered that he had received no specific proposal and that only studies and analyses are being carried out.

The Brazilian foreign minister's visit to Chile was also mentioned. In this regard, Pinochet said that his visit confirmed the strong relations between the two countries.

During this meeting he also said that he believes that the election of Belaunde Terry in Peru was a very positive event and that this will probably bring us to a closer relationship.

CHILE OPPOSES ADDING MEMBERS TO ANTARCTIC TREATY

FY011814 Paris AFP in Spanish 2134 GMT 30 Jun 80

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 30 Jun (AFP)--It was reported here today that Chile is against the incorporation of new members to the Antarctic Treaty which, until 1989, protects this region from territorial claims and commercial exploitation of its resources.

Pedro Romero Julio, director of the Chilean Antarctic Institute, has stated: We do not favor the idea of increasing the number of countries entitled to that continent.

The Antarctic Treaty, valid for 30 years, was signed in Washington in 1959 by Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, Ireland and the United States. Poland became a member in 1977.

Later, Romania, the Netherlands, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, Brazil and the FRG joined the treaty as observers or in order to take part in scientific investigations.

The PRC had also stated its interest in becoming a member of the treaty but finally only managed a preliminary agreement with Chile in 1979 which would allow it to learn about the information gathered by Chile in the Antarctic.

Chile, which claims 1.2 million square km of Antarctic land, maintains three permanent bases, one summer base and six smaller seasonal bases in the area and is now studying the possibility of building a large base in Margarita Bay and of purchasing an icebreaker.

With the purchase of this ship, which will cost approximately $50 million, and with the construction of a fourth permanent base the Chileans hope to go beyond the 40th parallel, thus covering areas never explored before near the pole and the heart of this enormous Antarctic territory which so far is only known along its periphery.

COURT ORDERS THOROUGH PROBE ON MISSING PERSONS

PY021727 Paris AFP in Spanish 2032 GMT 1 Jul 80

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 1 Jul (AFP)--It was reported here that the Chilean Supreme Court today instructed all Chilean judges to thoroughly investigate reports on missing persons, alleged homicides and torture.

According to the report, the Supreme Court of Justice has requested all judges to analyze the facts and relevant legal provisions of each case thoroughly. This resolution was adopted by the court 2 months after the Catholic Church voiced its concern over the prolongation of cases regarding the existence of missing persons allegedly arrested by members of the Chilean military government's security service.

In an extensive document released by the Vicariate of Solidarity of the Catholic Church, 660 cases of persons who have disappeared in Chile after being allegedly arrested are mentioned.

The Supreme Court's resolution also requests a report on the status of several court cases among which is one on the death of Prof Federico Alvarez Santibanez, who was arrested in August 1979.

SANTIAGO CHURCH OFFICE REPORTEDLY ATTACKED

PY021623 Paris AFP in Spanish 2317 GMT 1 Jul 80

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 1 Jul (AFP)--It was reported that a Catholic Church in Santiago was attacked today with machinegun fire from a passing car. The unidentified passengers of the car also threw a bomb which exploded and damaged the facade of the church building.

This incident takes place in the midst of denunciations made by Chilean Catholic bishops over the existence of a campaign against the church officials. A parish and vicariate of the archbishopric are situated at the site of the incident in Bernal del Mercado neighborhood in western Santiago.

Enrique Alvear, Santiago auxiliary bishop, this afternoon reported the attack to the Chilean justice authorities and stated that 15 bullet holds have damaged the church building. Bishop Alvear stated that this is the first time that a church has been attacked with bullets and bombs, and it seems that the means of attacking the church are changing. He stated that this makes one wonder what will happen in the future.

Recently, Cardinal Raul Silva Henriquez and the Chilean Episcopate protested the existence of what they termed a campaign against them launched by the media which is linked to the military government.

Clarification on Attack

PY022242 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] The alleged attack which was reported to the police by the political organization known as the Vicariate of Solidairty of the Santiago archbishopric has been clarified.

The explosion took place at the (Claver) dried meat factory, which is situated only a few meters away from the vicariate's office. The police reported that a group of unidentified individuals who were driving a red car had tried to paint Marxist slogans on the walls of the mentioned factory, which belongs to (Federico Claver), at 394 Bernal del Mercado Street. When they were spotted, the individuals threw a grenade against the gates of the factory as they escaped, and some of the fragments reached the vicariate building at 423 Bernal del Mercado Street. The denunciation made by the leaders of the mentioned organization, who stated that it was an attack aimed at intimidating its political actions within the church, has now been made clear.

GOVERNMENT WILL NOT OBJECT TO M-19 MEETING IN PANAMA

PA021856 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1040 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] Bogota, 2 Jul (EFE)--The Colombian Government announced Tuesday that it will not object to the meeting between Colombian guerrillas and special guests sponsored in Panama by the subversive 19 April Movement (M-19).

According to Colombian Justice Minister Felio Andrade Manrique, the Bogota government respects the sovereignty of other nations and will in no way interfere in their decisions. "That is a matter that concerns Panama exclusively. Our jurisdiction extends as far as our borders and we respect that," the official affirmed.

Several members of the Panamanian Embassy in Colombia said in the past few hours that they would permit the M-19 meeting in their territory as long as it was authorized by the Colombian authorities. The meeting is slated to take place next weekend and writer Gabriel Garcia Marquez, communist leader Gilberto Vieira and M-19 leaders Rosemberg Pabon, Jaime Bateman and Carlos Toledo Plata have already confirmed their attendance.

A communique on the Colombian president's proposed amnesty for guerrillas will reportedly be released at the end of the conference.

RANKING NICARAGUAN OFFICER REQUESTS ASYLUM

PA021833 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1650 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] San Andres Island, Colombia, 2 July (EFE)--A ranking officer of the Nicaraguan Armed Forces requested asylum here today shortly after arriving in this island on the Caribbean Sea, radio stations have reported.

According to the CARACOL radio network, the ranking officer arrived in San Andres flying a single-engine plane, but did not disclose his name. Apparently the officer, who has troops under his command in Nicaragua, appeared before the section of the Administrative Department of Security (DAS) of San Andres, where he requested asylum from the Colombian authorities. However, Foreign Ministry spokesmen in Bogota have neither confirmed nor denied the situation.

CAMACHO SAYS MILITARY JUSTICE SUPERIOR TO CIVILIAN

PA021810 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] Bogota--National Defense Minister Gen Luis Carlos Camacho Leyva has affirmed here that Colombian military justice is much better prepared than its civilian counterpart because it is less fearful of and weak toward the underworld. General Camacho said the military judges cannot be bought or sold. He added that the Supreme Court decisions revoking the sentences of the military courts have not been based on the incorrect application of the law but on procedural flaws which have no far-reaching effect.

Speaking on social problems, Camacho Leyva said that a higher minimum wage should be established and at the same time an attempt should be made to stabilize prices.

LABOR UNREST, STRIKES CAUSE 'WORRISOME' SITUATION

PY022206 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2044 GMT 1 Jul 80

[Text] Lima, 1 Jul (LATIN)--A worrisome labor situation has developed among state employees just 4 weeks before President-elect Fernando Belaunde Terry is to assume power after 12 years of military governments. A physicians' strike and the threat of strike by 800,000 government employees demanding better salaries are evidence of labor unrest.

The Peruvian General Labor Confederation (CGTP) called on workers to march on Thursday in order to submit a petition to Belaunde, the winner of the May presidential elections. The CGTP, which is controlled by the Peruvian Communist Party, pointed out that the petition--whose text was not revealed-- should be studied by the constitutional government "in the light of the new policy it has promised," for both the public and private sectors.

The government employees' strike, which was initiated by 14,500 physicians several days ago, threatens labor peace under the government of Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez. An official communique on this problem is expected tomorrow after the regular meeting of the Council of Ministers.

During the last 5 days, 24-hour stoppages were held at the Ministries of Economy and Finance, Agriculture, and Housing. About 35,000 health employees today completed their second day on strike, thus affecting administrative services in hospitals and national mess halls. Five thousand municipal and Callao port employees have threatened to stage a 24-hour stoppage tomorrow, and if their demands are not met they will go on indefinite strike.

According to official sources, the cost of living in Peru has increased by 16 percent from January to May, but this percentage does not reflect the true price increases of items which are basic for 13 million Peruvians whose purchasing power is decreasing in proportion to the scarcity of major foodstuffs such as milk, sugar, and cooking oil.

Peruvians in need of medical attention are not receiving proper care in state hospitals, and tomorrow they will be affected by a 24-hour stoppage of all pharmacies in the country. The pharmacists demand better control of prices set by pharmaceutical laboratories and the suspension of police control over pharmacies.

The Peruvian Medical Federation [FMP], which decreed a strike in state hospitals last Thursday, demands a salary equivalent to $600 for its newly graduated members, with legal salary readjustments according to seniority. The association of 2,500 physicians who work for Peruvian Social Security also demands a 100-percent increase of their $160 monthly salaries.

Peruvian Social Security fired 33 physicians last Friday and filed court charges against them for the crime of abandoning patients in a critical state of health.

Since yesterday, physicians of the federation and the association abstained from issuing certificates for medical rest and legal proceedings. They are only signing birth and death certificates. The physicians have also threatened to close private medical offices if the government does not meet their demands. After exhausting all possibilities for negotiations with the health minister, the physicians have accepted talks with the prime minister and with the war minister, Gen Pedro Richter Prada, tomorrow.

In a communique, the labor unions expressed their support for the physicians' strike and the government employees' strike threats.

CASTANEDA HOLDS WIDE-RANGING NEWS CONFERENCE

PA021300 Paris AFP in Spanish 0010 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] Mexico City, 1 Jul (AFP)--Mexican Foreign Secretary Jorge Castaneda today announced the country's definite opposition to the proliferation of the neutron bomb, the abnormal state of the relations between Mexico and Argentina and the upcoming signing of a petroleum agreement with Venezuela.

The Mexican foreign secretary, who discussed all these topics during a news conference held in Mexico, added that Mexico opposes military intervention in El Salvador and that its relations with the United States are better now than they were in late 1979. He said that Mexico will maintain its stand on not establishing diplomatic relations with Chile.

According to Castaneda, Mexican opposition to the proliferation of the neutron bomb falls within the framework of the Mexican policy that rejects an increase in nuclear weapons by countries which already have them as well as the incorporation of more nations into the club of owners of nuclear weapons. Asked if it was necessary to promote a particular initiative to stop the proliferation of the neutron bomb, he noted that "there is the UN conference on disarmament and that it should be used to promote the prohibition of this and all other nuclear weapons."

He stressed that the relations with Argentina "can be hardly described as normal; however, they are good in areas of mutual benefit such as the economy." He cited an example of the level of these relations by noting that the Mexican Embassy in Argentina "is under the responsibility of a commercial attache." Relations between Mexico and Argentina have reached a critical point because of the refusal of the government of President Jorge Videla to grant safe-conducts to two refugees who are at the Mexican Embassy in Buenos Aires.

Castaneda said that "Mexico will sign an agreement with Venezuela to sell petroleum to the Caribbean and Central American countries at the international price but with advantages in the financing." According to Castaneda, the signing of the agreement "will be carried out during the upcoming visit of Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo to Venezuela." He said that "he estimates that 70 percent of the price of the crude that will be sold in Central America and the Caribbean will be paid for in cash," but that the remaining 30 percent "will be subject to other conditions."

Regarding the Salvadoran crisis, he said that Mexico "opposses any military intervention and that it would support a form of solution such as that which permitted the Nicaraguan people to determine by themselves their political and social trend."

He announced that before the end of the year, his secretariat will complete a study on 56,000 cases of Mexicans who have entered the United States illegally. He added that this will allow Mexico to negotiate with the United States a treaty on "this kind of problem" which is creating friction between the two governments. He pointed out that relations between the two countries are "better than at the end of 1979."

He revealed that President Lopez Portillo is looking into the possibility of holding a meeting among the heads of state of 20 or 21 countries to give a new boost to the North-South meeting which is being held in New York at the expert level.

He denied that Mexico is studying the possibility of establishing relations with Chile again and was categorical in affirming that "the country's position has not changed in this regard."

FOREIGN MINISTER SAYS RELATIONS WITH GUATEMALA NORMAL

PA022334 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2354 GMT 1 Jul 80

[Text] Panama City, 1 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Panamanian Foreign Minister Carlos Ozores said today that relations between Panama and Guatemala have not deteriorated. Guatemalan President Romeo Lucas Garcia charged today in a speech before Congress there that Cuban and Panamanian mercenaries are participating in a "campaign to overthrow the established government."

Ozores said the Panamanian Government has not received protests from Guatemala on the supposed activity by Panamanian guerrillas or information that relations between the two countries have deteriorated. He said that if Panamanian guerrillas are cooperating with leftist Guatemalan guerrillas, Panama has no responsibility and the mercenaries are doing it for personal reasons.

Panama and Guatemala broke diplomatic relations 2 years ago when Panama expressed its desire for the independence of Belize, which Guatemala claims.

GOVERNMENT ABSOLVES PILOT IN ARMS PLANE CASE

PA021624 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 1 Jul 80

[Text] In contradiction of previous official statements, the government has exonerated pilot Cesar Rodriguez of deceitful responsibility in the incident of the Panamanian registered plane which crashed in El Salvador, apparently while transporting arms and ammunition. The decision was made public this afternoon by Government and Justice Minister Ricardo Alonso Rodriguez in statements for this station.

On 16 Jun 1980 a Government and Justice Ministry communique on the incident said that the plane had been taken without authorization from the hangars of Aviones de Panama in Paitilla. The following are the statements made by the government and justice minister:

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Government and Justice Minister, what is the result of the report submitted to the executive branch today by the attorney general of the nation on the Panamanian registered craft which crashed in Salvadoran territory?

[Answer] The report confirms our initial opinion which we made public earlier. That is, it was an isolated incident by Cesar Rodriguez, on his own initiative, but with the peculiarity that, other than the clandestine departure, for Costa Rica from Las Lajas Airport, no act was committed in Panama which we could describe as being subject to the jurisdictional action of our country. The acts committed here were legal, according to the attorney general's reports.

[Question] What disposition will be made of the report which the executive branch received today?

[Answer] We will submit this report to the president and the Foreign Ministry who, due to their responsibility for the country's foreign policy, will determine what to do with it.

[Question] Since the plane involved in the incident was rented, does the government plan to continue the investigation of the private sector connected with the plane?

[Answer] The attorney general cleared up this situation in his investigation and in the process it was demonstrated that the private companies or the pilot Rodriguez committed no fraud which warrants special action by the national authorities.
[Reporter] Thank you, Mr Minister. [end recording]

Further Details

PA021719 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2130 GMT 1 Jul 80

[By Rafael Candanedo]

[Text] Panama City, 1 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Panamanian Government and Justice Minister Ricardo Rodriguez said today that although isolated, the case of the plane that crashed in El Salvador while carrying ammunition for leftists guerrillas might be the basis for the discovery of a Central American arms traffic network.

Rodriguez told this agency that today he had received a report from Attorney General Olmedo Miranda containing the inquiries made to Cesar Rodriguez, the Panamanian pilot who survived the crash on 15 June on the HP-766 Aerocommander that crashed on a rural landing strip in eastern El Salvador, while carrying more than 500 kg of ammunition.

Two aircraft--of Panamanian and Costa Rican registration--took off from Miraflores, Guanacaste Province, in Costa Rica, loaded with weapons that were being sent to a rural Salvadoran area.

According to pilot Rodriguez, when his plane crashed he was left unconscious and was rescued by the crew of the Costa Rican plane, which had been flying a short distance away. From there, the survivor was taken to Las Lajas, in western Panama. Later he was hospitalized in a nearby clinic, where he is still staying. Pilot Rodriguez took the plane from a private company's hangar in Paitilla Airport, here in the capital, where it was being repaired. He headed for Guanacaste, where he loaded the plane with ammunition.

The government minister told this agency that according to the Panamanian penal code, nothing illicit had been done, since weapons were not moved through Panananian territory. In any event, he added, the pilot will be admonished for making a clandestine flight and taking the plane without authorization.

The Aerocommander's accident occurred when the pilot made an emergency landing due to mechanical problems and crashed against a tree, the attorney general's report states. Rodriguez, who is in serious condition, has not provided any details in the report about the persons connected with the arms traffic to El Salvador.

Two former Costa Rican public security ministers, Manuel Guerra and Enrique Montealegre, who Salvadoran media have connected with the arms traffic, have flatly denied their alleged participation. Both Guerra and Montelaegre own cargo and passenger plane companies.

The investigations conducted by Attorney General Miranda were turned over to President Aristides Royo who through the Foreign Ministry will forward them to Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio.

The ruling Salvadoran junta has exonerated the governments of the countries mentioned in connection with the arms traffic discovered in the wake of the plane's accident from all responsibility. According to a communique released by the Salvadoran Embassy in this capital, the Salvadoran civilian-military junta regards the arms traffic as an isolated activity carried out by individuals.

For his part, Costa Rican Public Security Minister Carlos Arguedas affirmed today that there are not sufficient grounds to claim that there is an entire organization operating from Costa Rica dedicated to the arms traffic for Central American guerrillas. He added that he awaits the Panamanian report in order to conduct investigations in his own country.

COSTA RICA

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES RECOGNITION OF PLO

PA020435 San Jose Radio Noticias del Continente Spanish 0100 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] In a news conference, Miguel Yamuni, Costa Rican ambassador to the Arab countries, made public an official communique in which the government announces its recognition of the PLO in the wake of the visit of Hammadi Essid official representative of the Arab League and personal delegate of the secretary general of that organization. Essid is currently touring Latin America to begin a dialogue with the nations of this continent.

[Words indistinct] Information which portrays the Arabs as creators of the economic crisis and as ogres trying to bring the Western world to its knees out of their ambition for power and dollars. This completely false image of the Arab countries is caused by the Zionist influence of Israel which manipulates the European and U.S. media directly or indirectly.

He explained that there are rich nations in the Arab world but there are also very poor ones. We are a peace-loving people. He said, but unfortunately we are seen in Latin America as nations which drain the economies of poor countries through oil. Regarding this, he said, we are partially to blame because we do not fight the falsehoods told about us promptly.

After the Arab visitor concluded, Miguel Yamuni, ambassador to the Arab countries, spoke. He said: [Begin recording] First Costa Rica, in its [word indistinct] principle, defends the existence of the State of Israel and its right to [word indistinct] within the borders established by the resolution on partition. I ask you to please take note of this because these are specific concepts of the Costa Rican Government. Equally though, it also defends the right of the Palestinian people to their own sovereign state and [word indistinct] within the borders established by the same resolution. This right belongs to the Palestinian people without any [word indistinct] of integration and not representation by any other Arab or Jewish state. The Costa Rican Government also defends the holy city of Jerusalem which, as Pope John Paul II said, is a sacred inheritance for millions of believers of the three great monotheistic religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

We fully agree with the call of our pope and the spirit of Resolution 181, article 2, of the general assembly on partition as well as Resolution 298 of 1971 of the Security Council to demand and defend its status as an international city. The Government of Costa Rica recognizes the right of the Palestinian people to be represented in international negotiations and forums. The legitimacy of this representation is in the PLO, as recognized by the United Nations, until the Palestinian people become sovereign and able to democratically decide on creation of a national government. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT WILLING TO RESUME REFUGEE AIRLIFT FROM CUBA

PA022347 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] Renewal of the airlift from Cuba, a request to Fidel Castro to take back Cuban criminals and U.S. concern over the situation of the Cuban refugees were some of the points discussed by representatives of 19 nations invited by the Costa Rican Government for a meeting on these issues. The deputy foreign minister of Costa Rica, Bernd Niehaus, said Costa Rica firmly supports any initiative to preserve peace. In this respect, and in view of Costa Rica's respect for human rights, he said Costa Rica is willing to resume the airlift at any time.

The Government of Costa Rica is concerned over the presence of common criminals among the Cuban refugees, which it considers an offense against international law. The second meeting on humanitarian problems related to the Cuban refugees, held here Tuesday and Wednesday, decided to ask the government of Fidel Castro to take back the Cuban common criminals, in conformity with international law.

SECURITY MINISTER: NO BASIS TO CLAIM ARMS TRAFFIC NETWORK

PA021720 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2201 GMT 1 Jul 80

[Text] San Jose, 1 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Public Security Minister Carlos Arguedas le Franc affirmed today that there are no specific bases to claim that an entire organization operating from Costa Rica is dedicated to the arms traffic for Central American guerrillas. According to him, as regards this issue, there are only some reports published by various media.

He added that "the Costa Rican authorities will begin acting once the Panamanian Government submits the report it is preparing on the basis of the testimonies of a Panamanian pilot," who was arrested after being in an accident while carrying weapons to El Salvador. The public security minister said he hoped "the reports provided by the Panamanian Government will be sufficient."

He insisted that actions will be carried out until all the official details on the subject as revealed by the detained pilot are obtained. [as received] The Panamanian pilot was carrying weapons in a plane that allegedly took off from Costa Rican territory. The investigations conducted by the National Security Office have led to the belief that the plane is the same one that took off from a Costa Rican beach. Residents of the town known as Tamarindo, on the Pacific, told the authorities that two aircraft had landed while several vehicles moved about the area very suspiciously. They added that one of the aircraft pulled out a wire fence when it took off, and the damage it incurred may have caused the accident.

According to the pilot of the crashed plane, a "big organization dedicated to arms trafficking for Central American guerrillas" operates in Costa Rica. According to the Panamanian authorities in charge of the investigation, the report being prepared will be submitted to President Rodrigo Carazo, who will then adopt the pertinent measures.

Station Comment on Arms Traffic

PA262031 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Jun 80

[Station commentary]

[Text] We must analyze two aspects regarding the problem of arms. One, the most immediate, is the need to have the comptroller's office handle the matter. It is obviously true that the comptroller's office will have to conduct a good arms inventory. The government should stop making the existence of weapons a state secret. If we do not have an army we do not have to hide the existence of weapons. Let the whole world know what weapons we have and how many we have each year. The comptroller's office should conduct a yearly inventory.

The black market in weapons must be fought. We should have a law prohibiting weapons traffic through Costa Rican territory and the establishment of harsh sanctions for those who negotiate for weapons. There are many Costa Ricans who have been involved in the black market weapons for many years.

We all know that most of these weapons come from the United States and Europe and that they are the product of the illegal traffic tolerated by the governments. It must be stopped once and for all.

In starting our protest over the way in which this traffic has been tolerated, we urge the comptroller's office to intervene and we also demand that a harsh law be enacted to punish those who keep weapons illegally or are involved in their traffic.

Charges have been made in the past about the presence of private armed groups in Costa Rica. There were politicians who had little private armies in this country. It is time to determine if they still exist. It is time to truly eliminate this great threat to peace.

EL SALVADOR

AUTHORITIES REPORT DEATHS IN PAST 24 HOURS

2 Jul Report

PA021748 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1737 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] San Salvador, 2 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The political violence which has been shaking El Salvador for a couple of years has claimed 30 lives in the past 24 hours, according to reports by authorities. Most of the deaths occurred in the southwestern part of Salvadoran territory and most of the dead were young students. Thus far none of the armed groups active in the country have claimed credit for the killings.

In Santa Ana, the second most important city of El Salvador, 66 km west of this capital, four bodies, riddled by bullets of various calibers were identified by the judges. In the eastern city of Santa Elena, the killing of Professor Reynaldo Barilgas, who was recently awarded a commendation on the occasion of Teachers Day on 22 June, has elicited a wave of protests. Five unidentified bodies were found in the outskirts of San Salvador, while in neighboring Soyapango five persons were killed in armed actions.

Meanwhile, the revolutionary government junta is making efforts to curb the wave of violence by promoting several socially beneficial measures cpposed by armed groups of various [political] persuasions seeking to attain power through the path of armed struggle.

3 Jul Report

PA030253 Paris AFP in Spanish 0013 GMT 3 Jul 80

[By Guillermo Penate Zambrano]

[Text] San Salvador, 2 Jul (AFP)--The endless violence in this tiny Central American republic took on new dimensions today when 57 persons were killed in the past 24 hours, according to a police report. The atrocious toll of human life--over 3,000 "massacred" since the beginning of 1980--rose this morning when about 20 shops in an elegant district of San Salvador were blasted. "It seemed like the capital was being bombed." stated an eyewitness. A 4-story building was completely demolished.

The leftist Peoples Revolutionary Army [ERP] claimed responsibility for the attack which, according to authorities, could be a leftist reprisal for the occupation of the national university by the army last Friday. According to other unofficial reports, whole towns in Chalatenango Department in the north have been abandoned for fear of guerrilla activities or of being caught in the crossfire in case of operations by armed forces. Arcatao, Las Vueltas, San Fernando and San Antonio de los Ranchos were some of the town mentioned.

Col Abdul Gutierrez, member of the government junta and considered the strongman of the present regime, said today that the "repression being carried out by the extreme left in the rural areas is stronger than any action by the authorities." He also said most of the landless peasants who sought refuge in Honduras had fled for fear of "bands of leftist criminals" who want to force them to reject the reforms begun by the government.

Meanwhile, the Salvadoran Ministry of Education said half of the nation's million primary and high school students had already left the country because of the pressure exerted by the extreme left. This extreme left, said the ministry, is increasing its efforts and its threats to recruit high school students. This is even more common among preparatory school students, which include the 16-20 year group, the ministry concluded.

BODIES OF SEVEN YOUTHS FOUND IN SONSONATE

PA020119 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1410 GMT 1 Jul 80

[Text] We have received a report that several bodies have been found in Sonsonate, in western El Salvador. According to initial reports, seven bodies of people who were probably murdered the night before have been found on a bridge over the (Susula) River. All the bodies were apparently those of youths and had signs of torture. The bodies have not been identified yet. They were apparently students.

BOMBINGS CAUSE HEAVY DAMAGE; ERP CLAIMS CREDIT

PA021538 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1503 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] San Salvador, 2 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--Several high-powered bombs caused heavy damage to commercial establishments in San Salvador this morning. The clandestine Marxist Peoples Revolutionary Army (ERP), in which extreme leftist organizations seeking to attain power through the path of armed struggle are grouped, has claimed credit for the terrorist attack. The Coche Rojo Restaurant, several establishments of the Suiza Plaza complex, the Lucerna bakery in Escalon neighborhood and other homes in La Rabida neighborhood in the northeastern area were damaged.

GOVERNMENT EXTENDS STATE OF SIEGE ANOTHER 30 DAYS

PA030211 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0151 GMT 3 Jul 80

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 2 Jul (LATIN)--The Salvadoran Government today extended the state of siege for another 30 days because the violence which forced the establishment of the state of siege still prevails. The measure, which restricts all constitutional liberties, was imposed on 5 March after the civilian-military government junta imposed the agrarian and banking reforms.

Spokesmen for the government said that inasmuch as the causes that led to the establishment of the state of siege still prevailed, it was decided to extend it.

JUNTA MEMBER DUARTE SCORES LEFTIST, RIGHTIST GROUPS

PA262144 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1836 GMT 26 Jun 80

[Text] Lisbon, 26 Jun (EFE)--A leftist revolution such as the one in Nicaragua "would be impossible today" in El Salvador, Jose Napoleon Duarte, a member of the civilian-military junta that rules this Central American country, stated today in Lisbon.

The Salvadoran Christian Democratic leader and president of the Christian Democratic Organization of the Americas [ODCA] also stated that the extreme left, which he blamed for most of the problems in his country, is losing strength daily. He gave as example the failure of the general strike called for Tuesday. He said the extreme left is "losing control of the streets" and losing its power to rally the people the way it was able to last year.

Duarte is in Lisbon to attend the European Christian Democratic Union Congress, where he outlined his country's situation. The Salvadoran leader asked the Christian Democrats of Europe for help in reestablishing lines of credit for his country. These had been interrupted because of the political violence and lack of security in El Salvador.

Duarte outlined in detail his party's history in recent years, giving it credit for the military movement that overthrew Gen Carlos Humberto Romero's government. According to him, "The extreme left, supported by Cuba and the Soviet Union, has generated death and disaster in El Salvador." Duarte made a blistering attack on the extreme leftist groups, "which only want power," and on dissidents of the Christian Democratic Party, many of whom he considered "Marxist infiltrators."

The extreme right, "which only wants to keep its privileges," was also the target of Duarte's criticism. He asserted that more than 100 members of his party, among them 20 leaders, have been killed by fascist groups. He also pointed that reports on (?the Salvadoran situation are part of) a campaign to discredit the revolutionary junta. [word indistinct] campaign to discredit the [words indistinct].

He announced that early in July the Central Electoral Council will initiate preparations for elections in which the Salvadoran people will freely choose their future, but said this will not happen for at least a year. Duarte [word indistinct] these elections in the [words indistinct] wish of the military is to withdraw as soon as possible to the garrisons.

He also said the worst is already over and that since the beginning of the year, when the present junta was established, the government has gained strength daily. In the opinion of the Salvadoran leader, the present action by the extremist groups, "which are only supported by a minority of the people," are a "desperate attack on the democratization of El Salvador."

GUATEMALA

PRESIDENT REITERATES NONINTERVENTION POLICY

PA021909 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2350 GMT 1 Jul 80

[Text] Guatemala City, 1 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--An official statement released here today states that the Guatemalan Government is willing to hold a dialogue with the rulers of the other Central American countries in order to find a solution to their common problems. This statement is included in a 224-page document delivered to Congress by Guatemalan President Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia, and in which he summarizes the achievements of the 2 years of his government and refers to certain expectations for the coming year.

The Guatemalan ruler reiterates in this document his respect for the principle of nonintervention in the internal affairs of the other Central American countries. In this sense, General Lucas Garcia recalls that when the change of government took place in the Republic of Nicaragua his government expressed its decision to respect the principle of nonintervention in the internal and external affairs of other states, as stipulated by international law.

In this same statement and referring specifically to Nicaragua, the Guatemalan president says that his government's relations with the Central American rulers continue unchanged. Lucas Garcia also stated that he is convinced that the Central American people yearn for unity and recalled that when Nicaragua was experiencing a very difficult situation, it was given aid in an unrestricted manner.

RADIO NEWSMAN SHOT TO DEATH IN RETALHULEU

PA030314 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0153 GMT 3 Jul 80

[Text] Guatemala City, 2 Jul (LATIN)--A newsman was shot last night at the door of the radio station where he worked in the city of Retalhuleu, 180 km southwest of Guatemala City, police reported today. Eliot Fernandez Mazairgos, director and announcer of the "Relampago" newscast of Radio Modelo, was machinegunned by four individuals who were waiting for him in front of the building, a police spokesman added. Fernandez was buried today in Coatepeque. The reasons for his murder and the political affiliation of his assassins are not yet known.

TWO PEASANTS INVOLVED IN ANTICOMMUNIST ACTIVITIES SLAIN

PA030128 Guatelama City Radio Mundial in Spanish 1415 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Distributed by Inter-Central American Radio Organization]

[Text] The bodies of peasants Carlos Humberto Aquino Chacon and Hector Garcia Ayala have been found riddled with bullets in a pickup truck with license plate number 25440. They were residents of San Marcos neighborhood in Zacapa. They were found yesterday at Kilometer 10.5 on the road to El Salvador and were identified as tomato merchants who were involved in the organization of a recent anticommunist demonstration in Zacapa. The victims had many bullet wounds and were taken to San Juan de Dios General Hospital. Several of their companions hurried to the scene, according to an official report.

The peasants had been recently [words indistinct] members of an underground organization actively involved in organizing the anticommunist demonstration in Zacapa. Aquino Chacon, married to [name indistinct], had three small children while Garcia Ayala, married to Concepcion Cruz, had two.

HONDURAS

ARMED FORCES, PARTIES CONFER ON NEXT GOVERNMENT

PA030004 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 2015 GMT 1 Jul 80

[Distributed by Inter-Central American Radio Organization]

[Text] The superior council of the armed forces and the leaders of the National, Liberal and Innovation and Unity parties will meet again today to reach an agreement on the makeup of the provisional government that will be headed constitutionally by Policarpo Paz Garcia. This is the second meeting. Last Thursday the dialogue between the civilians and military began at the headquarters of the 1st Infantry Batallion.

So far agreements reached are centered on the basic fact that Liberals and members of the National Party pledged to vote to make Gen Paz Garcia's position constitutional. The National Party gave its pledge without condition, while the Liberals indicated that they wish to occupy positions in the important ministries in view of their 20 April victory.

However, it was learned that the superior council of the armed forces had previously decided that it would choose the future ministers on the basis of slates presented by the parties. This decision may prevail in the present negotiations.

The only party that has maintained a position of opposition to all this has been Innovation and Unity Party [PINU], whose representatives maintain that the government should be pluralistic, associative and civilian.

SOME NICARAGUAN REFUGEES RELOCATED, OTHERS HELD

Relocation of 123 Families

PA021629 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] Some 123 Nicaraguan refugee families were relocated last week in various work centers, (Rafael Pons), chief of operations of the National Refugee Commission, has announced. This was done in order to make the refugees seek means of supporting themselves without depending on the aid that the Honduran Government and the United Nations have been giving them since last year.

All those who have been relocated have the necessary identification documents and tools to work in their professions. The remaining refugees who are still in [word indistinct], will be distributed within the next 20 days among sites previously chosen for that purpose, the official said in conclusion.

3,000 Somozists To Resettle

PA021630 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 Jul 80

[Text] The Honduran Government began today, Monday, to resettle more than 3,000 Somozists from the border area with Nicaragua to other parts of the country. After Anastasio Somoza's regime fell these Nicaraguans, including some children, fled to avoid revolutionary justice. The majority are former National Guardsmen who deserted as the guerrillas advanced and subsequently had their families join them.

During the time they spent on the border, they were a thorn in the side of the Sandinist government which constantly complained about their armed incursions. The Honduran Government was accused of promoting these incursions and permitting the operation of training camps. The Honduran Government dismantled a camp which was in fact being used by a group of 225 former National Guardsmen who were unarmed but waiting for arms from a friendly country which was never identified.

Delay in Move

PA030052 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 2015 GMT 1 Jul 80

[Text] Nicaraguan refugees, former Somozist guardsmen, will remain in the Yusguare Camp in Choluteca Department for a minimum of 1 month more, (Rafael Pons) chief of operations of the National Refugee Commission, announced yesterday.

Government Secretary Col Cristobal Diaz, who heads the National Refugee Commission, had said that the Nicaraguan refugees would leave the camp 30 June. However, (Peng) said this would not be feasible because the UN High Commission for Refugees has not yet turned over the aid which it offered for the former guardsmen. The chief of operations of the commission said the UN Commission, as part of the agreement for aid to the Nicaraguan refugees, will send $50,000 to cover food and other expenses and another $102,000 to be distributed among the refugees for their subsistence.

At present 934 families, a total of 2,500 persons, are in Yusguare. However, more former guardsmen have arrived recently at the camp in the southern part of the country, bringing the total to 3,000. The former Somozist guardsmen will receive housing from the Honduran Government. However, (Pons) said that when the refugees are dispersed in the country they will be under the control of the immigration offices, which are agencies of the government and Justice Secretariat.

The $102,000 which will be the final UN contribution, will be distributed among the former Somozist guardsmen to allow them to purchase tools and subsist on their own after they leave the border area. Each family will receive approximately $185. In addition, each family member will receive a minimum of $50 to cover costs of transportation to other parts of the country.

NICARAGUA

CIA ALLEGEDLY USES TRADE UNION INSTITUTE AS COVER

PA011832 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Jul 80

[Text] New York: The CIA has increased its subversive operations against Latin American states that have recently freed themselves from reactionary dictatorships and semicolonial dependency on U.S. imperialism. Nicaragua, which recently began to build a new life, is one of the main targets of U.S. espionage which is using brutal provocations.

A research document published here by the Labor Union of Mechanics and Workers of the Aeronautics Industry [Sindicato de Mecanicos y Trabajadores de la Industria Aeronautica], points out that the CIA uses the so-called North American Development Institute of Free Trade Unions [Instituto Norteamericano de Desarrollo de los Sindicatos Libres] as a cover for its operations.

This organization was created in 1961 with the direct support of George Meany, an ultra-reactionary monster of the AFL-CIO. The post of president of the council [as heard] was occupied by (T. Ray), one of the leaders of (Ray) and Company, a transnational chemical corporation. (Ray) is known for his close ties with U.S. espionage services.

Regional posts in several countries of Latin America and the Caribbean have been filled, as a rule, by professional CIA agents who with the support of the local agricultural oligarchy, the great bourgeoisie and other reactionary sectors, have gathered information and carried out other similar espionage activities.

The research document points out that the North American Development Institute of Free Trade Unions established itself in Nicaragua in 1964 when it established constructive relations with several reactionary trade unions controlled by the ruling regime. Together they carried out a large-scale struggle against labor unions, spying on their leaders and turning them over to the Somozist secret police. The North Americans assigned large amounts of money to accomplish these objectives. Following the fall of the bloody Somoza dictatorship, the institute officials set out to divede the labor movement in the country and to weaken and destabilize the economy.

It is no mere coincidence that Nicaraguan reactionary labor leaders are frequent guests of the U.S. Embassy in Managua. Local Maoists are another source of support for the U.S. special service agents. Nicaraguan security organizations have discovered a large plot in which the Maoist Party of Nicaragua played the key role. The counterrevolutionaries had planned to carry out a number of terrorist activities, organize strikes in the most important factories and implement other forms of provocation. The document seized at the time the plotters were arrested irrefutably shows their close ties with official U.S. authorities in Nicaragua.

EDITORIAL OBJECTS TO 'HUMILIATING' U.S. LOAN CONDITIONS

PA022225 Managua AVANCE in Spanish No 32 Jun 80 p 2

[Editorial: "The 75 Million: A Loan Full of Conditions"]

[Text] Our revolution, which is the original work of our masses, was born democratic, antioligarchic and anti-imperialistic. But in the past few months it has been under trial and it does not seem to be doing too well. Both domestic reaction and imperialism have refined and hastened their maneuvers, and the concessions they have been obtaining can be observed.

The U.S. Government is interfering in our domestic affairs. This has stemmed from the now-"famous" $75 million loan. It is painful to see how this has been allowed to play with our dignity as a free nation and as a revolutionary and victorious people. On account of the loan, many "rounds of discussions" have been held in both houses of the U.S. Congress. Those have violated our sovereignty because they abusively concerned "suggesting to us" paths to development and international relations guidelines, issues that the Nicaraguan people alone must decide on.

Because of the 75 million, the U.S. President and congressmen--both Democrats and Republicans --bankers, industrialists and businessmen have been discussing "what there is" and "what there should or should not be" in Nicaragua. They have also been examining "good" the and "the bad" in the Sandinist National Liberation Front, "good" the and "the bad" for the present and future of the Nicaraguan revolution and our country's "bad parties" and "good parties." At the height of all that interference they even said they were doing this in the name of Nicaragua's "sovereignty" and "freedom." The Yankee imperialists, our inveterate oppressors and exploiters and the biggest executioners and exploiters of all peoples subjected to their harsh rule as gendarmes of neocolonialism and world capitalism, now seek to become "sentinels" of the independence of Nicaragua and the Nicaraguan revolution. But they deceive no one. "They are wolves in sheeps' clothing!" our people say.

On account of the 75 million, "our" bourgeoisie has also been able to overcome its contradictions and has already begun opposing the most minimal revolutionary advance and all revolutionary conquests. And with the cynicism of imperialists, it too, in the name of "freedom" and "sovereignty," fans and holds up the banner of anticommunism, fans and holds up anti-Sovietism, promotes surrender policies in connection with the U.S. Government's "suggestions" (read "dictates"), masking their activities as intermediaries with chauvinistic chatter, deceitful preaching about "equal treatment" between our small and debt-ridden country and the imperialist sharks.

In recent weeks developments connected with the "celebrated" 75 million have been humiliating. Our people were able to see how, in the wake of the resignations tendered by Violeta and Robelo, the matter of the "satisfactory reorganization" of the National Reconstruction Government junta was wielded by President Carter as a condition set by the United States to grant the loan.

The visit by the committee headed by Senator [as published] James Wright was another shameless intervention by the Yankee government in our domestic affairs. The U.S. delegation publicly explained the other conditions set on the loan: "60 percent for private enterprise," "promises to hold elections soon," "human rights guaranteed," "individual freedom," "press freedom" and so forth. Anybody might say we are in the presence of a democratic proclamation but, on the contrary, those are the classic demands of imperialism in the face of liberation processes such as ours, in order to defend reaction and thus encourage counterrevolutionary movements.

Our feelings of solidarity with and affection for the Cuban people, their revolutionary government and their socialist revolution were trampled. The delegates of imperialism, obviously protecting the anti-Cuban and Somozist worms openly stated: "We bring the 'official suggestion' that an 'international conference' be held to discuss the case of the 3 million refugees... We hope to express to the members of the Sandinist Front that our hope for the Nicaraguan people is one of individual and political freedom and, as everyone knows, this does not exist in Cuba." And these reactionary concerns and anticommunist lies against Cuba were also tolerated.

Then we have the unexpected and surprising official invitation extended to James Carter to attend the celebration of the first anniversary of the Nicaraguan revolution, expressing the satisfaction of both states over the advance of the relations being structured by the respective governments.

And while these jugglings and machinations continue and the "historic 75 million" was yet to arrive, the U.S. Senate has already begun next year's campaign: It has begun "discussing" another loan for our country, this time for $54 million. Apparently this will be another long and horrible nightmare for the Nicaraguan people. On this occasion, what will the new aims of imperialism be? Are we treading the right path? Are our sovereignty and national independence being strengthened? Will our people accept a continuation on that path?

GOVERNMENT THANKS CUBA FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS AID

PA022000 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] The Nicaraguan National Telecommunications Directorate has expressed its gratitude for the cooperation provided by the Cuban Communications Ministry's technicians who helped broadcast radio and television signals to Bluefields on the Atlantic side for the first time. In statements for the press on the occasion of a visit to Managua by a delegation headed by Cuban Communications Vice Minister Rene Hernandez, the Nicaraguan officials said that Cuba's cooperation will make it possible to install an automatic telephone dialing system for Jinotega and Matagalpa Departments before 19 July, first anniversary of the victory of the revolution.

They added that a relay television station has been installed in Esteli and that work is currently underway to extend that service to other areas.

GOVERNMENT CALLS FOR CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVISION

PA022233 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1949 GMT 1 Jul 80

[Text] Managua, 1 Jul (ACAN-EFE)--The Nicaraguan Government will propose a revision of Central American economic relations at the meeting of integration authorities which will be held here Friday. The proposal was revealed by Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, member of the Nicaraguan junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, to ACAN-EFE. A meeting of the region's integration ministers will be held in Managua Friday at the modern installations of the Central American Institute of Business Administration.

Commander Ortega said the proposal will be made at the meeting "so that the subject can begin to be discussed." He said that at the present time one cannot speak of normal economic relations in Central America. He added that "one or two countries benefit from the exchange at the expense of the other countries of the area." He said this is why commercial and economic relations in Central America are now being conducted through bilateral agreements.

"That is why it is time to revise thoroughly the manner of conducting economic relations among the Central American countries," said the Sandinist commander. He added that it is necessary to find a method to confront "the systematic occupation of our nations by transnational companies, which undermines the real possibilities for development and strengthening of our economies."

OIL AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH MEXICAN GOVERNMENT

PA011735 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 1 Jul 80

[Text] Through an oil-purchasing agreement with Mexico Nicaragua will receive 7,500 barrels of oil daily to cover our needs, said member of the governing junta of national reconstruction, Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado, at Sandino Airport on his return from Mexico this afternoon. Companero Ramirez Mercado was accompanied by Planning Minister Henry Ruiz and Agricultural Development Minister Jaime Wheelock Roman, as well as by government officials Emilio Baltodano, Carlos A. Ruiz and Federico Cerda.

In addition an agreement was reached with the firm Nacional Financiera de Mexico to coordinate the creation of a joint investment entity to develop large projects in Nicaragua. Companero Jaime Wheelock will now expand on this information:

[Begin recording] Very well, excellent. We met with President Lopez Portillo and the ministers of finance and national patrimony. Nicaragua already has an agreement with Mexican Petroleum for the purchase of 7,500 barrels daily. Delivery will begin in the next few weeks.

We also met with the officials of Nacional Financiera de Mexico, and they are going to work with us to create a joint investment entity to develop large projects, including a pulp and paper factory in the Atlantic sector and a bus assembly plant with a yearly production capacity of 360 buses. [end recording]

HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICIAL, RED CROSS VISITS DETAINEES

PA011740 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Jul 80

[Text] Dr Leon (Serdosia), national commissioner for human rights and humanitarian matters, and delegates of the International Red Cross Committee have visited the German Pomares complex that houses some people who are under investigation for criminal charges.

Tomas Borge Martinez, interior minister and commander of the revolution, also arrived with the visitors. The Red Cross committee has been in the country for several months and has made about 140 visits to readaptation centers. The Red Cross committee makes suggestions and recommendations and later observes the procedures again. The committee is allowed to talk to all the arrested persons separately and for as long as they want.

This is one of the first activities carried out by the national commissioner for human rights and humanitarian matters. The commissioner has said that he still does not have an established office but noted that it is expected that he will have one in approximately 2 weeks. Once the commission has an office, there will be a grand assembly that will count on the participation of leaders of labor, religious, professional, women, youth, journalistic and political organizations as well as others who will form part of the commission--all of which will demonstrate its broad composition.

GRANMA REPORTS NO REFUGEES LEFT MARIEL 1 JUL

FL021421 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] News from Mariel: No antisocial individuals left yesterday from Mariel for the United States. As GRANMA's edition [2 July] went to press, four boats from Florida were at the port. No boats from the United States arrived in Mariel yesterday.

COOPERATION PROTOCOL WITH ETHIOPIA SIGNED

FL021023 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] Ethiopia and Cuba have signed an economic and scientific-technical cooperation protocol at the conclusion of the second Cuban-Ethiopian intergovernmental session. The document outlines the areas of mutual cooperation in agriculture, education, health, sugar, construction and communications and transportation, among others.

NICARAGUAN FISHERIES MINISTER VISITS SHIPYARD

FL021513 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1424 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] The Cuban and Nicarguan fishing ministers, Jorge A. Fernandez Cuervo and Carlos Coronel, respectively, have visited the Victoria de Giron shipyard in Cardenas, Matanzas, where 14 Nicaraguans are training in the building of ferrocement boats. During the visit, the two ministers met with the student workers. Carlos Coronel thanked the Cuban Government, especially the Cardenas shipbuilding enterprise, for the welcome and training given the young workers.

The first party secretary in Cardenas ratified the organization's support to the young Nicaraguans' training. The 14 Nicaraguans pledged to build a ferrocement Boat that Cuba will donate to Sandino's fatherland.

IMPERIALISM ACCUSED OF UNDERMINING NICARAGUAN REVOLUTION

PA030205 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 2 Jul 80

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpt] The Nicaraguan people are working with enthusiasm to rebuild a nation devastated by 40 years of Somozist tyranny. Great strides have been taken toward economic recovery, institutionalization, public health and education, the literacy crusade and consolidation of the Sandinist revolution. The first anniversary of the splendid revolutionary triumph of 19 July 1979 will soon be observed.

But the enemies of the nation of Sandino and all the people of our America are trying to block or destroy the noble efforts of the Nicaraguan people. Threats, pressure and maneuvers have become criminal and overt aggression.

Last week a counterrevolutionary band made up mostly of former members of Somoza's National Guard attacked the town of San Isidro in Matagalpa Department. Troops of the Sandinist Army and the state security department pursued the counterrevolutionaries with the help of local residents and captured 18 of them after a brief skirmish.

Tomas Borge, commander of the revolution and minister of interior, reported that nine rifles and a considerable amount of ammunition and other materiel had been seized from the counterrevolutionary band.

The Sandinist leader also reported the arrest of another six persons involved in an attack that another counterrevolutionary group had carried out recently against the garrison in San Juan de los Remates, Boaco Department.

With harrassment of this type--production sabotage and actions such as the recent assassination of young literacy teacher Georgino Andrade--the counterrevolutionaries are attempting to destroy the constructive and noble work of the Nicaraguan people.

Overthrown a year ago by the overwhelming force of the people's revolution, these counterrevolutionary elements and imperialism now are resorting to their favorite weapons: terrorism, premeditated crime and sabotage.

An old story is being repeated now in Nicaragua. U.S. imperialism and its criminal agents cannot resign themselves to accepting the unavoidable progress of the revolution and are trying to destroy it or block it.

But as Comdr Tomas Borge warned when he reported the capture of the band of counterrevolutionaries in Matagalpa, we will smash them each time they try to attack the revolution.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OPENS REGULAR 1980 SESSION

FL021810 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Excerpts] The first regular period of sessions of the People's Government National Assembly began this morning at the Palace of Conventions in Cubanacan. This first session was attended by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party's Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, as well as all the members of the Politburo and the Council of State.

[Begin Raul Roa Garcia recording] As acting president, I declare open the first regular period of sessions of the People's Government National Assembly for 1980. By the way, to the satisfaction of all of us, I wish to inform you that the recuperation of our president, Comrade Blas Roca, is proceeding favorably. We trust that he will soon be able to fully resume his important activities. [applause] Our conscience and our heart demands that before we begin our work, we invoke the memory of deputy and secretary of the Council of State, Comrade Celia Sanchez. Celia left in the physical sense when we needed her most but her spirit is and will remain alive among us. I am requesting one minute of silence in honor of one of the most extraordinary women in our history. [end recording]

The previous session's minutes were approved and the day's agenda was discussed and approved unanimously. Immediately afterwards, Roa ceded the podium to Comrade Raul Rodriguez, a member of the International Order Commission. Rodriguez read the report in connection with the new traffic code that will go into effect on 1 January 1981. The new code has 146 articles and provides in one of its parts that a driver of a moving vehicle, whether or not he or she is at fault in a traffic accident, must give aid to the victim of the accident caused by the driver. Another of its articles establishes that any violator of the code must sign the traffic ticket issued to him or her.

The first regular period of sessions is attended by 92 percent of the deputies, or over 440 comrades. Today's agenda also includes an analysis of the report on the National Assembly's international activities as well as their outcome. Another item will be the discussion and approval of the state budget. A bill on soil rehabilitation and water conservation will be analyzed and discussed this afternoon. The Supreme People's Tribunal's report will also be discussed. Reporting from the Palace of Conventions, this is Freddy More.

Report on Afternoon Session

FL030109 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Jul 80

[Text] Directly from the Palace of Conventions in Cubanacan, we bring you this report on this year's first regular meeting of the People's Government National Assembly. The meeting continued this afternoon with the participation of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee and first vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers. Raul Roa, acting president of the People's Government National Assembly, declared the afternoon session open by ordering the continuation of the debate on the draft of the traffic code, which provoked interesting remarks on the part of the speakers, among them the commander in chief.

[Begin Fidel Castro recording] We run the risk of prohibiting certain things which are never obeyed. This is something that occurs systematically. That is what we have to examine. I would not like to see a total prohibition because we always have the time to do that. I am sure that the previous prohibition did not do it; it was the 20-peso fine. It is true that very different views have been expressed here. Faustine, William, Nunez Jimenez, many comrades have expressed contradictory views. Some of them said that it is not the same thing when one is carrying passengers, that the responsibility is not the same in all the cases of persons driving vehicles. What Nunez says is true; a motorcycle can cause a catastrophe, even though the driver of the bus might be sober. It is also true, as another comrade stated, that this problem does not affect all the people. [end recording]

The afternoon discussions mainly examined article 54, which states that it is strictly forbidden to drink alcoholic beverages while driving. After a prolonged debate of this article, it was agreed to rewrite the clause which refers to drinking alcoholic beverages and to examine it again tomorrow morning. Subsequently, Roa proposed the examination of the international activities of the National Assembly, which are outlined in a very extensive report. The report was read by Deputy Aleida March.

The next item on the agenda was the examination of the report submitted by the People's Supreme Court, which was read by Deputy Marta Lugioyo. The current regular meeting of the National Assembly is being attended by more than 440 deputies, 92.1 percent of the members of the assembly.

BRIEFS

ST LUCIAN VISITORS--The St Lucian delegation headed by (Lawrence Payette), president of the St Lucia-Cuba Friendship Committee, was received at the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples [ICAP] by ICAP President Rene Rodriguez. The meeting was held in an atmosphere of fraternal solidarity. Topics concerning the strengthening of the friendly relations between Cuba and St Lucia were discussed. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1403 GMT 2 Jul 80 FL]

GARCIA FRIAS AT FESTIVAL--The first artistic show of the national "Cucalambe" festival has been held with the attendance of Guillermo Garcia Frias, member of the party Politburo, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and minister of transportation, at (El Cornito), Las Tunas, where poet Juan Cristobal Napoles (Fajardo), "El Cucalambe", lived. The festival marks the 150th anniversary of his birth. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1804 GMT 28 Jun 80 FL]

URUGUAY

LA MANANA SAYS TWO PARTIES TO RESUME ACTIVITY THIS YEAR

PY021511 Paris AFP in Spanish 1256 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] Montevideo, 2 Jul (AFP)--The newspaper LA MANANA stated today that the traditional Uruguayan political parties--Colorado and Blanco--will resume political activity in January 1981 and will immediately elect their officials but will be able to start organizing themselves before the end of this year.

According to the newspaper, these projections are contained in the statute of political parties being prepared by the civilian-military officials. The newspaper added that about six or seven temporary regulations will be added to the statute so that the Blanco and Colorado Parties may organize themselves in order to comply with the government's program.

LA MANANA stated that the two political parties exist as a historic reality, and can start their activities without even needing to submit an original declaration of their creation. The Blanco and Colorado Parties' activities were suspended in 1973, when the Communist and Socialist Parties and other leftist organizations were proscribed.

According to LA MANANA, the temporary regulations will permit the rehabilitation of only these two parties, so they can organize by the integration of their members and the holding of internal party elections as a step prior to the general elections scheduled for November 1981.

BRIEFS

MEAT EXPORTS TO IRAN--According to information released today 1,500 tons of meat have been sold to Iran. This deal has been handled by the Central Frigorifica del Uruguay and the price obtained for the meat is $2,200 per ton, which is considered very satisfactory. [Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 1 Jul 80 PY]

PERSONS BEFORE MILITARY COURTS--Montevideo, 24 Jun (AFP)--Col Federico Silva Ledesma, president of the Supreme Military Court, stated today that a total of 1,276 persons are at the disposal of military justice in Uruguay. [Paris AFP in Spanish 2319 GMT 24 Jun 80 PY]

SURINAME

ARMY COMMANDER VIEWS NMR-GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

LD021131 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 20 Jun 80 p 5

[F.L. van Klaveren interview with Commander of Suriname National Army Maj Daisy Bouterse: "Major Bouterse Gradually Turning Suriname Army Into Well-Oiled Machine"--date, place of interview not specified]

[Excerpt] [Question] What precisely is the National Military Council's [NMR] role? Does it act as a watchdog, a kind of ombudsman?

[Answer] It boils down mainly to the following: Supporting this government and monitoring this government. Also, the NMR has many additional tasks. One of them is not only to consolidate but to extend the revolution and the rights won 25 February.

[Question] How much autonomy does the government have?

[Answer] The government statement speaks for itself.

[Question] Just suppose that the government cannot meet the NMR's requirements to produce results within 6 months partly because the officials, inherited from the previous government, are hindering affairs. What then?

[Answer] The government is indeed having all kinds of problems with desk officials who can hold things up. However, this government also has the opportunity to take a strong line on whatever it wishes. There is a wide margin for governing freely. If things do not have a sound foundation you cannot just pass them on to officials. If any self-respecting government with so many opportunities for action does not act, then I think it brings the consequences on itself.

[Question] And if they do not?

[Answer] [Suriname Prime Minister] Chin-A-Sen is an intelligent man.

[Question] Is the ministerial reshuffle and the merger between ministries a job for the government or for the NMR?

[Answer] The government, of course.

[Question] But the government can discuss it with the NMR?

[Answer] The definition of our role includes giving advice, when solicited or not. If ministers are replaced then the government must ensure that affairs are cleared up 12 hours before the change.

[Question] Has the time not been rather unwisely chosen just before the arrival of Netherlands Minister [Without Portfolio of Development aid] Koning?

[Answer] I do not believe that we should postpone necessary affairs for that reason. If we did, the matter would go on for "X" number of days longer. I feel that these ministers should have been replaced a long time ago.

[Question] Is the government making money available for the army?

[Answer] Yes, this is a matter for the government. We are introducing a budget and this is being backed by the minister of army and police [as published]. The government says yes, no or reduce it. Unfortunately, I am not involved with this.

[Question] If the answer is "no." Will there be a conflict situation between the NMR and the government?

[Answer] If a budget is drawn up expertly it is never rejected. We have our experts.

[Question] Will the army--I estimate it to be around 500 to 600 men--be expanded?

[Answer] Five hundred to 600 men? Mr Elstak's army may have been that size. It is now a lot bigger.

[Question] Will it be further expanded?

[Answer] Of course, but we are going to stabilize it first. We are gradually going to turn it into a well-oiled machine. Afterward there will be an expansion. That is inevitable.